Cyber Warfare Genie Out of the Bottle

It appears that the United and Israel have used computers to hack into and manipulate computers in Iran in order to spy on government leaders and physically destroy nuclear enrichment centrifuges.

This is a type of warfare. Certainly, if Iran did the same thing to the United States, we would consider that we had been attacked.

Many countries are spending millions in research both to protect themselves from cyber attacks and to be able to attack other countries with cyber weapons. The United States brags about being number one.

Cyber attacks have the potential to cause tremendous human suffering. Think of manipulating the computers that control floodgates of a major dam; or using computers to knock out the electric grid.

International Treaty Needed to Ban Cyber Warfare

Russia is among the countries calling for an international treaty to ban cyber warfare. Such a treaty is not unthinkable. There are international treaties against chemical and biological weapons. To date the U.S. government has opposed such a treaty. This is as very short sighted view.

It is time for peace advocates to press for a cyber warfare ban.

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